

CHAPTER NO. 722

HOUSE BILL NO. 2783

By Representatives Clem, Hargett, DuBois

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2822

By Senator Fowler

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16, Chapter 15, Part 5, relative to the jurisdictional limits of general sessions courts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-15-501, is amended by deleting subsection (d) and substituting instead the following:

(1) The jurisdiction of courts of general sessions, where they have been created, shall extend to the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in all civil cases, both law and equity; provided, that this section shall not apply to cases of forcible entry and detainer, wherein the court shall have unlimited original jurisdiction; and provided further, that this section shall not apply to actions to recover personal property wherein the court shall have unlimited original jurisdiction including jurisdiction to award an alternative money judgment; and general sessions judges shall have jurisdiction to issue restraining orders and to enforce the penalty provisions for violation of such restraining orders.

(2) For the purpose of calculating whether a judgment entered by a court of general sessions is within or exceeds the monetary jurisdictional limits established for such courts by this subsection, the following amounts shall not be included:

- (A) Any amount awarded for attorney fees;
- (B) Any court costs assessed by the court; and
- (C) Any discretionary costs assessed by the court.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect September 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 10, 2006


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 19th day of May 2006


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR